



The **TRUMPET**

Kansas Elevator Safety Act

In this Issue...

- **Tom McGaughey Award Announced**
- **Firefighter Cancer Awareness Month**
- **Winter Fire Safety**

FROM THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Major changes are coming to the OSFM as 2023 approaches. As many of you may have heard, I announced my retirement from the OSFM at the Kansas State Association of Fire Chiefs Conference in October. I will be stepping down sometime after the first of the year, depending on when Governor Kelly announces my replacement.

Another big change for our office has been the passage of the Kansas Elevator Safety Act, which placed the oversight of licensing and registration of elevators and operators in our office. More information on that program can be found on pages 4-5 of this issue, as well as our website.

As always, thank you for reading *The Trumpet* and for sharing the past 11 years with me and the OSFM on this challenging and rewarding journey. We hope you will enjoy the issue and share it with friends, family and co-workers. If you have any ideas or proposals that could benefit our mutual efforts to create a safer Kansas, you can still contact me at doug.jorgensen@ks.gov for the next several weeks. We will make sure to make an announcement when my replacement has been selected.

We hope you have a wonderful and safe holiday and winter season!



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Doug Jorgensen". The signature is fluid and cursive.

State Fire Marshal

STAY CONNECTED



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HOT SPOTS @ OSFM



We are pleased to welcome several new employees to OSFM.



Charles Rice begins his career with OSFM as a Fire Prevention Inspector I for Morris, Lyon, Geary, Wabaunsee, and Chase counties. He comes to the position after 11 years working in corrections.

Charles lives in Topeka after buying his first home three years ago. He has a Rottweiler and German Shepherd. He enjoys volunteering, doing things around his house, reading, making playlists, roller skating and dancing.

“I changed careers for three reasons,” Charles said. “Safety and security always come first (pun intended), two, I still don’t know what I want to be when I grow up, and three, after my first day I can confirm how well OSFM treats their employees!”

Jane Hammond joins us in a Fire Prevention Inspector – Enforcement position. She previously worked as a security officer for Stormont Vail and has over 16 years of experience from the military, fire service, security, and medical communities.



Jane lives in Topeka with her husband, two sons and dog, Ranger. She enjoys walking at Lake Shawnee, workouts, weightlifting and sports with her kids

“I really wanted a more challenging job,” she said. “Also, with my background this seemed like a good fit to work towards my long-term goal of moving into Emergency Management.”



Larry Robinson will serve as a Boiler Inspector for Area #4. He comes to OSFM after five years of working as a boiler operator for Kansas Department of Administration.

Larry lives with his wife in Burlingame. He has a son and a daughter, as well as a cat and dog. He enjoys black smithing and distilling.

“I look forward to helping people live longer,” he said.

Kenny Jaske joins OSFM as a Fire Prevention Inspector for Reno and Rice counties. He has worked as a welder for Doonan Specialized Trailer.



Kenny lives in Hoisington with his two dogs. In his spare time, he enjoys hunting.

“I wanted something different than anything I have done in the past,” he said.



Derek Jones joins OSFM as a Fire Prevention Inspector for Hamilton County, Kearney, Finney, Grant, Morton and Stevens counties. He has worked in construction and security and has nine years of active-duty service in the U.S. Navy in damage control and firefighting.

Derek lives in Lankin and has a daughter, 16, and a son, 5, as well as a cat, Kiwi. He enjoys music, song writing, recording and playing live. He also spends time with tech and tech-related devices.

“It’s a great opportunity to work for the state and continue in the firefighting/fire safety space,” he said.

OUR MISSION

The agency’s mission is to reduce the deaths, injuries, and property losses of Kansans through education, enforcement, hazardous material, inspection, investigation, regulation, and search & rescue incident responses.

OUR PURPOSE

To reduce the deaths, injuries, and property losses of Kansans through:

- Coordination of Search and Rescue Efforts
- Enforcement
- Fireworks and Explosives Regulation
- Hazardous Material Incident Mitigation
- Inspection
- Investigation
- Plans Review
- Public Education

The TRUMPET

EDITOR

Jill Bronaugh
Communications Manager
jill.bronaugh@ks.gov
(785) 296-3403

CONTACT US

For information on receiving The Trumpet or if you have questions regarding content, please contact [Jill Bronaugh](mailto:jill.bronaugh@ks.gov).

Office of the State Fire Marshal
800 SW Jackson, Suite 104
Topeka, KS 66612-1216
(785) 296-3401

STAY CONNECTED



Kansas Elevator Safety Act: OSFM to Oversee Licensing, Registration

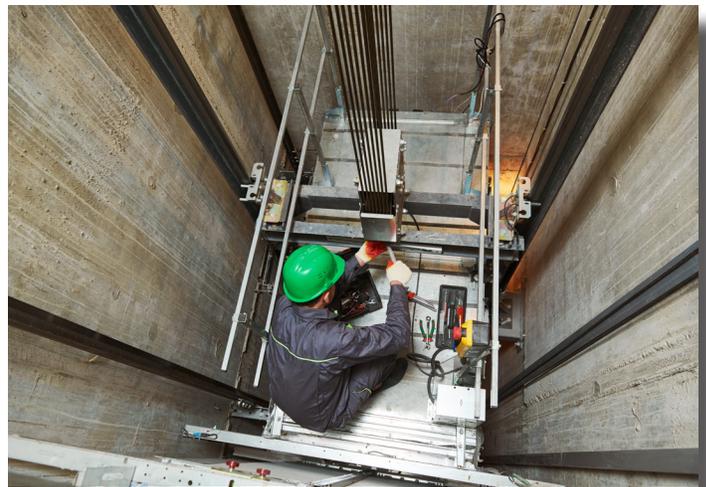


The Kansas Elevator Safety Act was established by the Kansas Legislature in 2021/2022 and placed enforcement responsibility of the safety and operation of all elevators, escalators and conveyances in Kansas with the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM). The Act requires all elevators, escalators and conveyances in Kansas to be registered with the OSFM, and all contractors, mechanics, and inspectors to be licensed by the OSFM.

Elevator contractors, mechanics and inspectors will be required to obtain a license through the OSFM on or before July 1, 2023. Each licensee will be required to submit proof to OSFM of a current insurance policy issued by an insurance company authorized to do business in this state that provides general liability coverage of at least \$1 million for injury or death of any number of persons in any one occurrence, with coverage of at least \$500,000 for property damage in any one occurrence and proof of workers compensation insurance coverage as required by Kansas law.

Kansas Elevator Safety Act requires the following to be licensed on or before July 1, 2023:

- ◆ **Elevator Contractors**
- ◆ **Elevator Inspectors**
- ◆ **Elevator Mechanics**



“Elevator” story cont. on page 5...

“Elevator” story cont. from page 4...



OSFM will also establish a registry of elevators that are in operation and have a certificate of operation. All elevators in Kansas will be required to be registered and have a certificate of operation by July 1, 2023.

- Elevators installed prior to July 1, 2022 will have until July 1, 2023 to register and obtain a certificate of operation with OSFM.
- Elevators installed after July 1, 2022, but prior to Jan. 1, 2023, will be required to register and obtain a certificate of operation within six (6) months before they can be placed in operation.
- Elevators installed after Jan. 1, 2023 will be required to register before being placed in operation.

The OSFM will adopt rules and regulations necessary to implement and enforce the provisions of the act. Rules and regulations adopted will be based on, and follow, generally accepted national engineering standards, formula and practices that will at a minimum include adoption of current American national standards known as the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) safety code for elevators and escalators.

An 11-member Elevator Advisory Board has been created by the Act. The Governor will appoint seven members, and the remaining four will consist of legislative and state agency officials. The board will advise OSFM and make recommendations regarding rules and regulations necessary to implement and enforce the provisions of the Act.

We are currently accepting licenses, applications and fees for all aspects of the Elevator Safety Act. We also encourage all potential elevator contractors, inspectors and mechanics to apply for licensing as soon as possible so a directory can be released in a timely manner.

Please visit our website [Elevator Safety page](#) for more information on fees, applications and registration of elevators.

Welcome to the OSFM... (cont.)



Michael Yanez joins OSFM as a Fire Prevention Inspector for Butler and Cowley counties. He comes to OSFM from the Sedgwick County Code Enforcement, Metropolitan Area Business Construction Department, where he worked for over two years.

Michael lives with his wife, two sons, and two dogs in Wichita. He enjoys waterfowl hunting, KU sports, whatever his kids are into currently, which is baseball and football and reading nonfiction books and medical journals for further education purposes.

“I’m always up for a challenge and new adventures,” he said. “My favorite quote is: ‘There are no bad teams, only bad team leaders,’ from *Extreme Ownership*, 2015.”

Welcome to the OSFM, Charles, Jane, Larry, Kenny, Derek and Michael!

Now Hiring!

The Office of the State Fire Marshal is looking to fill open positions in the Topeka office, as well as across the state. We have several positions open. We offer competitive salaries, state benefits and a great working environment.

If you have a passion for protecting the lives and property of the citizens of Kansas, you are a hard worker and have a great work ethic, we are looking for someone just like you! Please visit our jobs page [HERE](#) on our website for current job descriptions and to apply today!

For a list of OSFM current job openings visit

<https://firemarshal.ks.gov/Jobs.aspx>

Andover Firefighter Earns 2022 McGaughey Award

The Andover City Council recognized Andover Firefighter Stephen Cullinane at the Dec. 13 Council meeting for receiving the Kansas State Fire Marshal's 2022 Tom McGaughey Fire Service Award. Each year, the Office of the State Fire Marshal joins with the Kansas State Association of Fire Chiefs and Kansas State Firefighters Association to honor a firefighter or team of firefighters for heroic actions above and beyond the call of duty.

After being nominated by Andover Fire-Rescue Chief Chad Russell, Captain Stephen Cullinane, was selected for this year's Tom McGaughey Fire Service Award for his heroic actions, which saved the life of an elderly U.S. Marine veteran who had lost his leg during his military service.

On September 26, 2021, in the early evening, Andover Fire-Rescue was called to a house on fire in the 1500 block of North Andover Road. Lt. (now Captain) Stephen Cullinane was advised by an Andover Police Officer that there was an elderly couple trapped inside.

While Lt. Cullinane's crew was stretching the line to the front door of this 800 square foot house, he prepared to enter at the front door. Smoke was banked down in the living room, but when he knelt at the front door to prepare to enter, he could hear a female voice yelling from inside. He told his firefighter what he was doing and immediately entered. Though met with poor visibility and excessive storage conditions, he quickly found an elderly female pacing and yelling for her husband. She told him that her husband was trapped in the back bedroom, and she was trying to get him out. Lt. Cullinane hurried her outside and immediately went back toward the back bedroom, while his crew started to extinguish the fire.



Andover firefighter awarded the 2022 Tom McGaughey Fire Service Award at the 2022 Kansas State Association of Fire Chiefs Conference that took place in October in Topeka. Pictured from left: Kansas State Firefighter Association President Steve Hirsch, Andover Fire-Rescue Chief Chad Russell, Captain Stephen Cullinane, Kansas State Association of Fire Chiefs President Tim Smith, and State Fire Marshal Doug Jorgensen.

From his report and in his words, "I advised command that 1 patient was on the porch, and she stated there was another victim inside, I also relayed to command that we had hoarder conditions inside the residence. I returned into the structure and could hear coughing to my left. I went through the living room and met an elderly man standing in a doorway to a bedroom. He stated, "he couldn't see and couldn't breathe." He was holding a cane. I grabbed the man over my shoulder and carried him into the living room and out the front door. I handed him off to a crew outside the front door."

"It is an honor to be able to recognize Captain Cullinane for his selfless actions," State Fire Marshal Doug Jorgensen said. "Firefighters put their lives on the line every day, without hesitation, to save the lives of strangers. This award is our way of saying thank you. Your sacrifice makes a difference."

The Tom McGaughey Fire Service Award recognizes exemplary accomplishments and acts of heroism by firefighters and other persons at fire-related incidents in Kansas. The individual or team is recognized for their acts above and beyond their basic duties and responsibilities, and for exemplifying the finest traditions of the fire service. Congratulations to Captain Stephen Cullinane of the Andover Fire-Rescue Department.



Tom McGaughey
Wichita Fire Chief
1961-1968

The award was adopted in 1971 in memory of Wichita Fire Chief Tom McGaughey who perished in a fire, along with three others (Chief Fire Inspector Merle O. Wells, Firefighter Jimmy L. Austin and Firefighter Dale J. Mishler) at the Yingling Auto Dealership on November 21, 1968.

It is to be presented each year at the Fire Chief's Conference to the fire department and the firefighter or firefighters whose bravery and courage went above and beyond the call of duty.

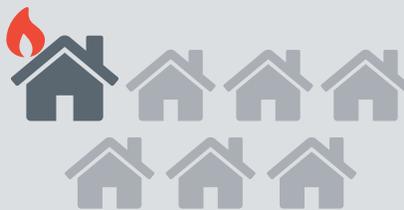


Put a **FREEZE** on Winter Fires

Home fires occur more in winter than in any other season. As you stay cozy and warm this winter, be fire smart!



Half of all home heating fires occur in December, January and February.



1 in every 7 home fires and 1 in every 5 home fire deaths involves heating equipment.



Keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet from any heat source like fireplaces, wood stoves, radiators or space heaters.



Keep portable generators outside, away from windows, and as far away from your home as possible.



Install and test carbon monoxide alarms at least once a month.



Plug only 1 heat-producing appliance (like a space heater) into an electrical outlet at a time.



Have a qualified professional clean and inspect your chimney and vents every year.



Store cooled ashes in a tightly covered metal container, and keep it outside at least 10 feet from your home and any nearby buildings.

January is Firefighter Cancer Awareness Month in Kansas

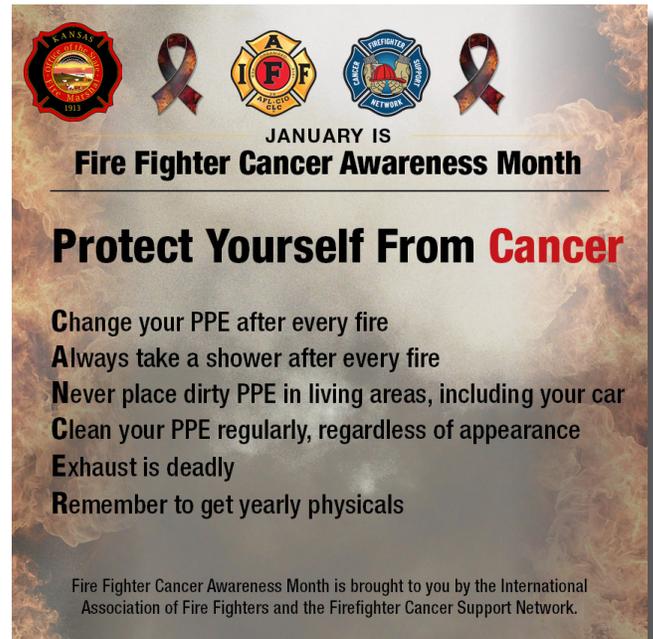
Research shows that fire fighters are more likely to be diagnosed with certain types of cancer than the general public – a trend that fire service organizations hope to reduce.

The Office of the State Fire Marshal, along with the Kansas State Firefighters Association, the Kansas State Association of Fire Chiefs, the International Association of Firefighters, and the Firefighter Cancer Support Network are all partnering to deliver targeted education about best practices and resources to prevent and reduce cancer among fire fighters during Fire Fighter Cancer Awareness Month in January.

The month-long campaign includes safety stand downs, training briefs and a focus on prevention and mitigation, including the scope of the cancer in the fire service, best practices for prevention and skills to help survivors of occupational cancer.

These topics are reinforced with online resources, such as daily training information and infographics that promote the program and underline the importance of the issue on social media, as well as podcasts addressing the important issues of prevention and documentation of exposures to carcinogens.

“Ensuring the health and well-being of fire fighters is our top priority so we can keep our communities safe. We know that there needs to be further education, more assistance and resources for fire fighters when it comes to navigating an occupational cancer diagnosis,” Fire Marshal Doug Jorgensen said. “Working together with such dedicated groups, there is no doubt that this partnership will increase awareness and save lives.”



**NO PPE BEYOND
THIS POINT**

Ask us for your FREE station sticker

CONTACT:

Kelly Ingold

Public Education & Outreach Consultant

Office of the State Fire Marshal

Email: Kelly.Ingold@ks.gov

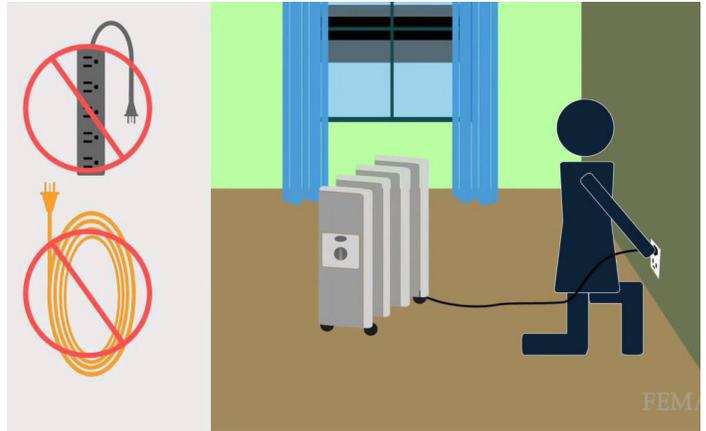
Phone: (785) 291-3586

www.firemarshal.ks.gov

Overcoming the Cold: One Room at a Time

By Shawn Alexander
OSFM Staff Development Specialist

With winter months upon us and temperatures steadily on the decline, we are all looking for ways to stay warm. Many of us want to stay warm without using central heating to keep our entire home at the same temperature. This leaves us with a couple of options; we can either bundle up with extra clothes and blankets or implement the use of a localized heat source. One common additional heat source is a space heater. The most common of these are electric.



These are the four main types of electric space heaters:

- **Oil or water-filled radiator**, heated oil or water travels through the heater
- **Fan-forced heater**, a fan blows warm air over metal coils
- **Ceramic heater**, air warmed over a ceramic heating element
- **Infrared heaters**, heat is created by infrared bulbs

While these heaters are great for warming a localized space, they come with risks that should not be overlooked. Two in five deaths in space heater fires involve portable electric space heaters.

Reduce Space Heater Risks

1. Use proper electrical source

Plug the heater directly into a wall outlet with sufficient electrical capacity. Never plug into an extension cord.

2. Never leave unattended

Turn off and unplug the heater when you leave the room or are sleeping.

3. Place on proper surface

Place the heater on a solid, flat non-combustible surface.

4. Inspect regularly

Check the cord and plug for cracks, loose connections or exposed wires.

5. Check safety certification

Choose a heater with a safety certification label from a respected independent testing organization, such as Underwriters Laboratories.

6. Use appropriate distancing

Keep the heater at least three feet away from all combustible material such as blankets, furniture and draperies.

As we all take measures to stay warm this winter, it is important to remember that fire safety is everyone's responsibility. Using these safety tips, we all can do our part to reduce the risk of loss of life and property in Kansas.

2022 Haz-Mat Symposium in Wichita

In November, OSFM hosted its annual Haz-Mat Symposium at the Wichita Fire Department Regional Training Center. We partnered with the Kansas Division of Emergency Management, Wichita Fire Department, Sedgwick County Fire District #1, Sedgwick County LEPC, Environmental Protection Agency Region VII, Union Pacific Railroad, Spirit AeroSystems, 908 Devices, DR Haz-Mat, Firehouse Training & Consulting, and Kappler for what was an educational and productive event.

The symposium featured Rodney Reed, the Assistant Chief Operational Support for the Harris County, Texas, Fire Marshal's Office, as it's Keynote Speaker and offered four different learning tracks: Command, Industrial, Specialist and Technician.



Chris Weber, aka Dr. Haz-Mat instructing a firefighter on an IR instrument.



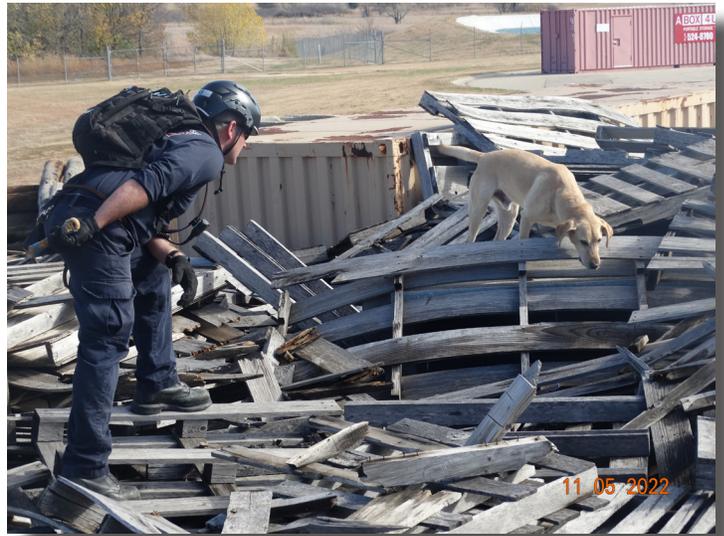
Lane Sekavec, Union Pacific Railroad, explains how to operate a C-Kit. The C-Kit is used primary for Cl2 leaks on rail cars but can be used on SO2 as well as NH3.



This group of firefighters is using an Ahura. The Ahura is a Raman spectrometer. It uses a high energy laser to excite molecules; therefore, releasing photons. It measures photons released at varying wavelengths and builds a spectra. It then compares the spectra to what is known in its library.

Another Successful Fall Ball at Crisis City

In November, the Kansas Task Force K9 Unit (KS-TF K9) hosted an Urban Search & Rescue canine training event called the "Fall Ball." The Fall Ball, which was held at Crisis City, brings canine teams from around the country to train together to search for victims and survivors of a man-made or natural disaster. When registration opened this year, all 42 available slots sold out in just 45 minutes! Those 42 canine teams, consisting of a handler and K9 partner, trained for two days in a variety of scenarios and stations to sharpen their skills in either human-remains detection or live-find search. The event, which has been held annually since 2014, is always a huge success and a popular training destination here in the country's heartland. The training is organized by handlers from the KS-TF K9 unit as a fundraiser, and their hard work led to yet another extremely successful year. Thanks KS-TF K9!



Mike Searcy, KCKFD/ KS-TF 1 & 3, and his K9, Zoom, who is a live-find dog, on top of a rubble pile at Crisis City. Zoom is alerting Mike that he has found someone.



BamBam of Alabama TF 1 is ready to work!



Peggy Hensleigh of Missouri Search & Rescue shows off her raffle prizes.



Erik Falkenstrom of California TF 4 rewards his K9 partner, Leslie, at the distraction station.

Winter Holiday Fire Facts

Christmas trees

- Between 2013 and 2017, U.S. fire departments responded to an average 160 home fires that started with Christmas trees per year. These fires caused an average of three deaths, 15 injuries, and \$10 million in direct property damage annually.
- On average, one of every 52 reported home fires that began with a Christmas tree resulted in a death, compared to an average of one death per 135 total reported home fires.
- Electrical distribution or lighting equipment was involved in 44% of home Christmas tree fires.
- In one-quarter (25%) of the Christmas tree fires, some type of heat source, such as a candle or equipment, was too close to the tree.
- One-fifth (21%) of Christmas tree fires were intentional.
- Roughly three-quarters of Christmas tree fires occurred in December or January.
- Two of every five (39%) home Christmas tree fires started in the living room.

Holiday decorations

- U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated average of 780 home structure fires per year that began with decorations, excluding Christmas trees, in 2013-2017. These fires caused an annual average of three civilian fire deaths, 34 civilian fire injuries and \$12 million in direct property damage.
- Nine percent of decoration fires were intentional.
- The decoration was too close to a heat source such as a candle or equipment in more than two of every five (44%) fires.
- One-fifth (21%) of the decoration fires started in the kitchen. Sixteen percent started in the living room, family room or den.
- One-fifth (20%) of the home decoration fires occurred in December.



Candles

- On average, 22 home candle fires were reported each day between 2013-2017.
- Three of every five (60%) candle fires started when something that could burn, such as furniture, mattresses or bedding, curtains, or decorations, was too close to the candle.
- Candle fires peak in December. January ranked second. Eighteen percent of December candle fires started in the living room and 8% started in the dining room compared to 14% and 3% for those areas during the rest of the year.
- The two peak days for candle fires were Christmas and Christmas Eve.

Holiday cooking

- Thanksgiving is the peak day for home cooking fires, followed by Christmas Day and Christmas Eve.
- Cooking equipment was involved in one of every five (19%) home decoration fires. This can happen when a decoration is left on or too close to a stove or other cooking equipment.



Fire Hazard Recalls from CPSC

Name of Product:
Traditional 90 and Traditional 110
Gas Fireplaces

Hazard:
Improper installation of the
fireplaces can lead to problems
with heat release and/or
ventilation, posing a fire hazard.

Remedy:
Repair

Recall Date:
December 08, 2022

Units:
About 400



Name of Product:
Cordless Window Shades
Battery Packs

Hazard:
The battery packs can overheat,
posing a fire hazard.

Remedy:
Replace

Recall Date:
December 08, 2022

Units:
About 56,000 (In addition, about 1,450 were sold in Canada)



Name of Product:
Scotch TL1302 Thermal
Laminators

Hazard:
A safety feature can malfunction if
the laminator overheats, posing a fire hazard.

Remedy:
Refund

Recall Date:
December 08, 2022

Units:
About 516,500 (In addition, about 3,560 were sold in
Canada)



Name of Product:
Model Years 2021-
2022 RZR Pro XP 4
Recreational Off-Road
Vehicles

Hazard:
A fuel leak can occur
at the fuel pump
assembly joint on
the fuel tank in close proximity to a hot surface, posing a fire
hazard.

Remedy:
Repair

Recall Date:
December 01, 2022

Units:
About 600 (In addition, about 7 were sold in Canada)



For more information on recalls and consumer safety information and to sign up for direct recall notifications, please visit www.cpsc.gov.



Working smoke alarms save lives!



Free Smoke Alarm Program

GetAlarmedKS.org

Christmas Tree Safety



As you deck the halls this holiday season, be fire smart. A small fire that spreads to a Christmas tree can grow large very quickly.



PICKING THE TREE

- Choose a tree with fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched.



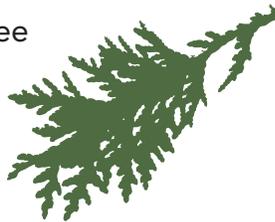
PLACING THE TREE

- Before placing the tree in the stand, cut 2" from the base of the trunk.
- Make sure the tree is at least three feet away from any heat source, like fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents or lights.
- Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit.
- Add water to the tree stand. Be sure to add water daily.



LIGHTING THE TREE

- Use lights that are listed by a qualified testing laboratory. Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- Never use lit candles to decorate the tree.
- Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to bed.



After Christmas

Get rid of the tree after Christmas or when it is dry. Dried-out trees are a fire danger and should not be left in the home or garage, or placed outside against the home.

Check with your local community to find a recycling program.

Bring outdoor electrical lights inside after the holidays to prevent hazards and make them last longer.

FACTS

- ! **Almost one third** of home Christmas tree fires are caused by electrical problems.
- ! Although Christmas tree fires are not common, when they do occur, they are more likely to be serious.
- ! A heat source too close to the tree causes more than **one in every five** of the fires.



Your Source for SAFETY Information

NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169

